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SNOW SURVEYS and WATER SUPPLY OUTLOOK for ALASKA



U. S. DEPARTMENT of AGRICULTURE ★ SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE
Collaborating with
ALASKA SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Data included in this report were obtained by the agencies named above in cooperation
with Federal, State and private organizations listed inside the back cover of this report.

AS OF
JUNE 1, 1974

TO RECIPIENTS OF WATER SUPPLY OUTLOOK REPORTS:

Most of the usable water in western states originates as mountain snowfall. This snowfall accumulates during the winter and spring, several months before the snow melts and appears as streamflow. Since the runoff from precipitation as snow is delayed, estimates of snowmelt runoff can be made well in advance of its occurrence. Streamflow forecasts published in this report are based principally on measurement of the water equivalent of the mountain snowpack.

Forecasts become more accurate as more of the data affecting runoff are measured. All forecasts assume that climatic factors during the remainder of the snow accumulation and melt season will interact with a resultant average effect on runoff. Early season forecasts are therefore subject to a greater change than those made on later dates.

The snow course measurement is obtained by sampling snow depth and water equivalent at surveyed and marked locations in mountain areas. A total of about ten samples are taken at each location. The average of these are reported as snow depth and water equivalent. These measurements are repeated in the same location near the same dates each year.

Snow surveys are made monthly or semi-monthly from January 1 through June 1 in most states. There are about 1900 snow courses in Western United States and in the Columbia Basin in British Columbia. Networks of automatic snow water equivalent and related data sensing devices, along with radio telemetry are expanding and will provide a continuous record of snow water and other parameters at key locations.

Detailed data on snow course and soil moisture measurements are presented in state and local reports. Other data on reservoir storage, summaries of precipitation, current streamflow, and soil moisture conditions at valley elevations are also included. The report for Western United States presents a broad picture of water supply outlook conditions, including selected streamflow forecasts, summary of snow accumulation to date, and storage in larger reservoirs.

Snow survey and soil moisture data for the period of record are published by the Soil Conservation Service by states about every five years. Data for the current year is summarized in a West-wide basic data summary and published about October 1 of each year.

*Cover Photo: Snow Surveyors near Ship Creek,
Alaska snow course.*

FSC PHOTO A-272-11

PUBLISHED BY SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE

The Soil Conservation Service publishes reports following the principal snow survey dates from January 1 through June 1 in cooperation with state water administrators, agricultural experiment stations and others. Copies of the reports for Western United States and all state reports may be obtained from Soil Conservation Service, Western Regional Technical Service Center, Room 209, 511 N. W. Broadway, Portland, Oregon 97209.

Copies of state and local reports may also be obtained from state offices of the Soil Conservation Service in the following states:

STATE	ADDRESS
Alaska	204 E. 5th. Ave., Room 217, Anchorage, Alaska 99501
Arizona	6029 Federal Building, Phoenix, Arizona 85025
Colorado (N. Mex.)	P. O. Box 17107, Denver, Colorado 80217
Idaho	Room 345, 304 N. 8th. St., Boise, Idaho 83702
Montana	P. O. Box 98, Bozeman, Montana 59715
Nevada	P. O. Box 4850, Reno Nevada 89505
Oregon	1218 S. W. Washington St., Portland, Oregon 97205
Utah	4012 Federal Bldg., 125 South State St., Salt Lake City, Utah 84138
Washington	360 U.S. Court House, Spokane, Washington 99201
Wyoming	P. O. Box 2440, Casper, Wyoming 82601

PUBLISHED BY OTHER AGENCIES

Water Supply Outlook reports prepared by other agencies include a report for California by the Water Supply Forecast and Snow Surveys Unit, California Department of Water Resources, P. O. Box 388, Sacramento, California 95802 --- and for British Columbia by the Department of Lands, Forests and Water Resources, Water Resources Service, Parliament Building, Victoria, British Columbia



FEDERAL - STATE - PRIVATE

SNOW SURVEYS

AND

WATER SUPPLY OUTLOOK

FOR

ALASKA

Issued by

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ADMINISTRATOR
SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE
WASHINGTON, D.C.



Released by

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STATE CONSERVATIONIST
SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA



Report prepared by

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SNOW SURVEY TEAM IN THE CHUGACH RANGE

SCS PHOTO A-302-12

ALASKA SUMMARY
as of
JUNE 1, 1974

The seasonal snowpack is melted at most low and mid elevations in the state. Only at higher elevations does any of this year's snow remain.

Surveys taken since May 1 are reported in this bulletin. Late surveys not included in previous editions are also reported.

The U. S. Geological Survey's glaciology program yields seasonal snowpack data from Gulkana and Wolverine glaciers. Measurements taken periodically since mid 1973 are also incorporated into this report.

Snow "pillow" sensor data are available by request from the Soil Conservation Service, 204 East 5th Avenue, Room 217, Anchorage, Alaska 99501.

SNOW

DRAINAGE BASIN and/or SNOW COURSE			THIS YEAR		PAST RECORD		
NAME	Number	Elevation	Date of Survey	Snow Depth (Inches)	Water Content (Inches)	Water Content (inches)	Years of Previous Record
				Last Year	Average +		
AS OF MAY 15, 1974							
<u>TANANA-CHENA:</u>							
Caribou Mine	28	1115	5/15	0	0.0	0.0	.8
Cleary Summit	18	2230	5/15	0	0.0	0.0	3.0
Little Chena	19	2200	5/15	0	0.0	0.0	1.2
Mt. Ryan	20	2950	5/15	8A	2.2E	0.0	3.2
Munson Ridge	23	3100	5/15	39A	12.5E	9.6E	11.8
Upper Chena	75	3000	5/15	12A	3.2E	0.0	2.7
Wolf Creek	76	3850	5/15	6A	1.5E	0.0	1.9
AS OF JUNE 1, 1974							
<u>UPPER COOK INLET:</u>							
Mt. Alyeska	128	1200	5/23	61	28.0	34.5	--
<u>SOUTHEAST ALASKA:</u>							
Crater Lake	73	1750	NO SURVEY		70.0	62.5	8
Long Lake	71	1075	NO SURVEY		38.3	29.5	8
Speel River	72	275	NO SURVEY		17.3	12.7	8
Upper Long Lake	70	1000	NO SURVEY		41.5	30.4	8
<u>DELAYED</u>							
Mankomen Lake	32	3050	2/01	23	3.6	4.1	5.0
Mankomen Lake	32	3050	4/01	37	7.6	6.3	6.7
Mankomen Lake	32	3050	5/01	33	7.3	8.8	7.1
Log Cabin	69	2880	3/30	39	10.0	13.7	13.1
<u>GLACIER STATIONS:</u>							
Gulkana Glacier A	89	4590	Water Year 1973:	5/21 8/01	71 0	31.1 0.0	-- --
			Water Year 1974:	10/26 3/24	17 40	4.7 11.0	13.4 27.6
Gulkana Glacier B	90	5478	Water Year 1973:	5/22 8/01 8/09	118 25 6	47.6 14.2 2.4	-- -- --
			Water Year 1974:	10/24 3/24	37 77	11.8 22.0	26.0 40.2
Gulkana Glacier C	91	6363	Water Year 1973:	5/22 7/25	162 98	68.5 53.5	-- --
			Water Year 1974:	8/01 10/27 3/24	6 44 82	1.6 15.0 24.8	36.7 37.0 62.6
Wolverine Glacier A	86	2100	Water Year 1973:	6/01 7/07 8/25	65 0 0	29.1 0.0 0.0	16.9 -- --
			Water Year 1974:	10/15 3/10	0 38	0.0 13.0	-- --
Wolverine Glacier B	87	3610	Water Year 1973:	6/01 7/06 8/24	126 80 3	55.9 48.8 2.4	101.4 61.3 --

A - Aerial Marker reading

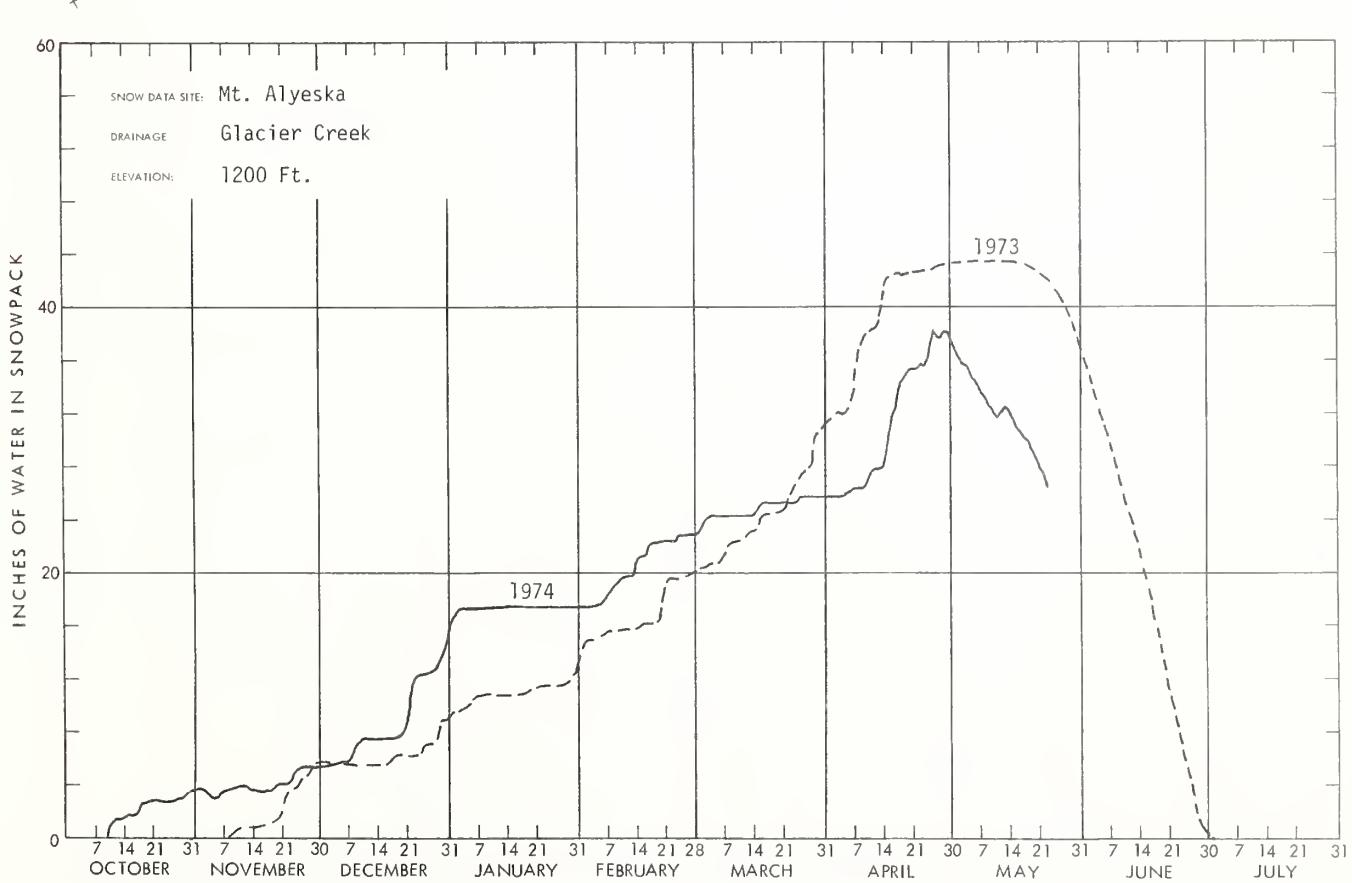
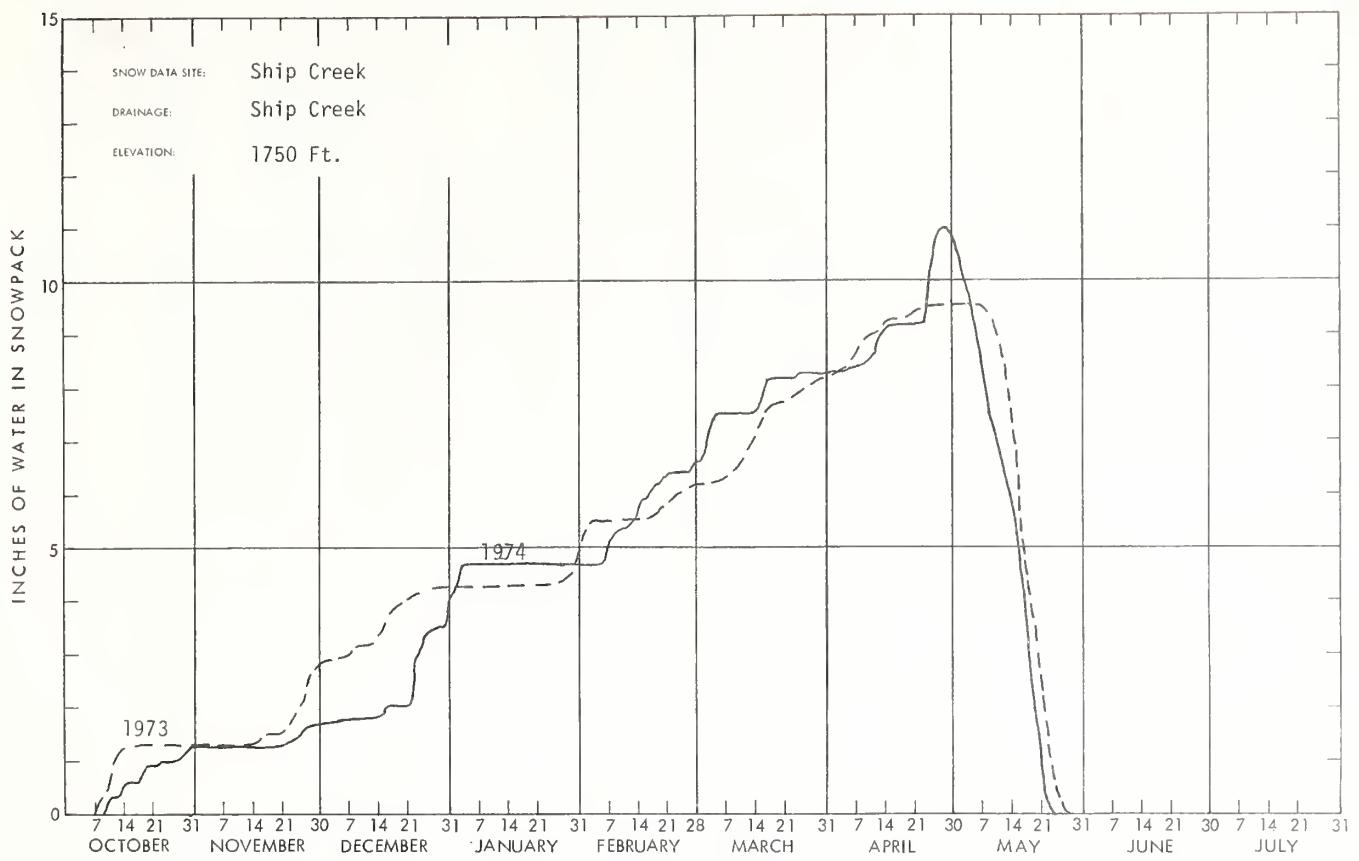
E - Estimated

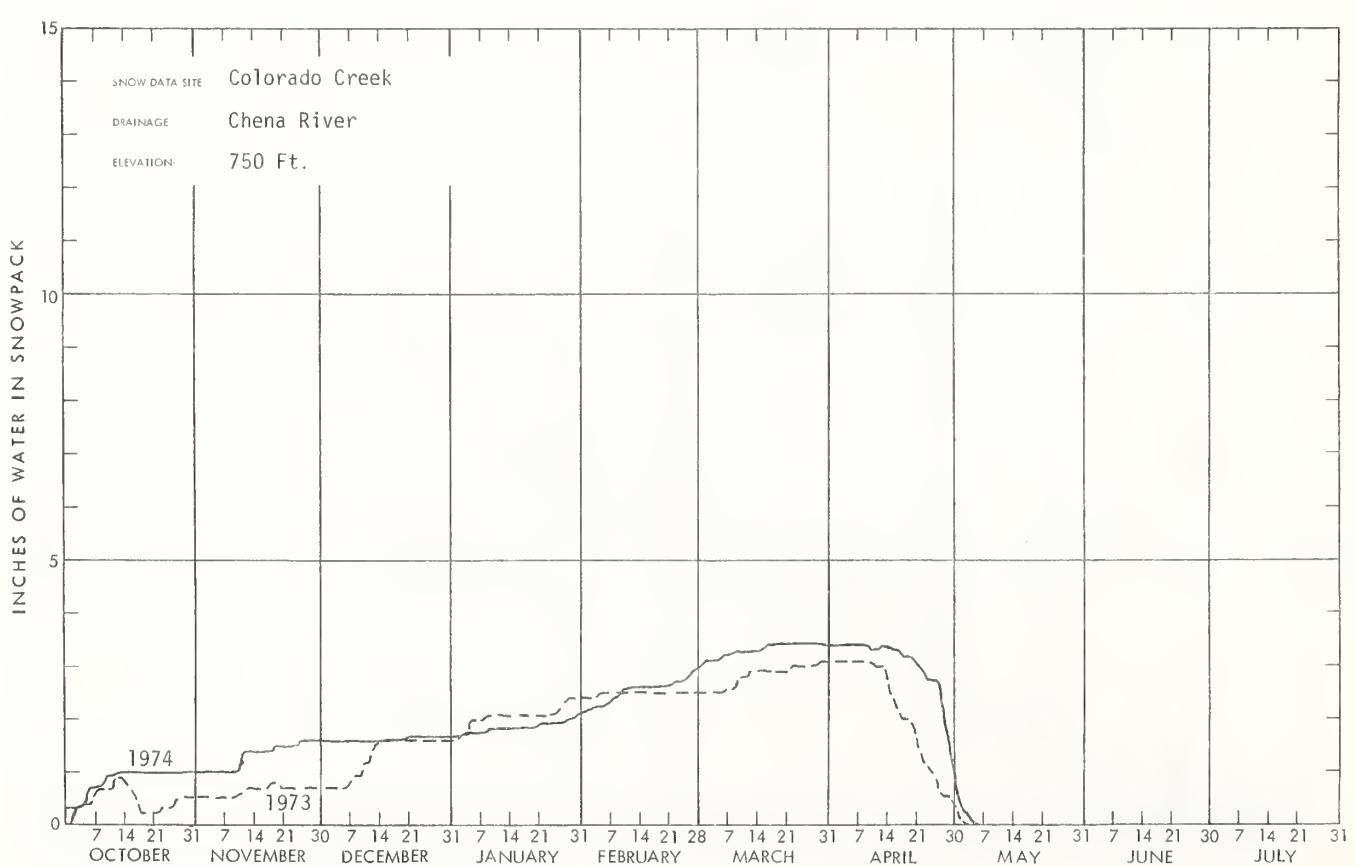
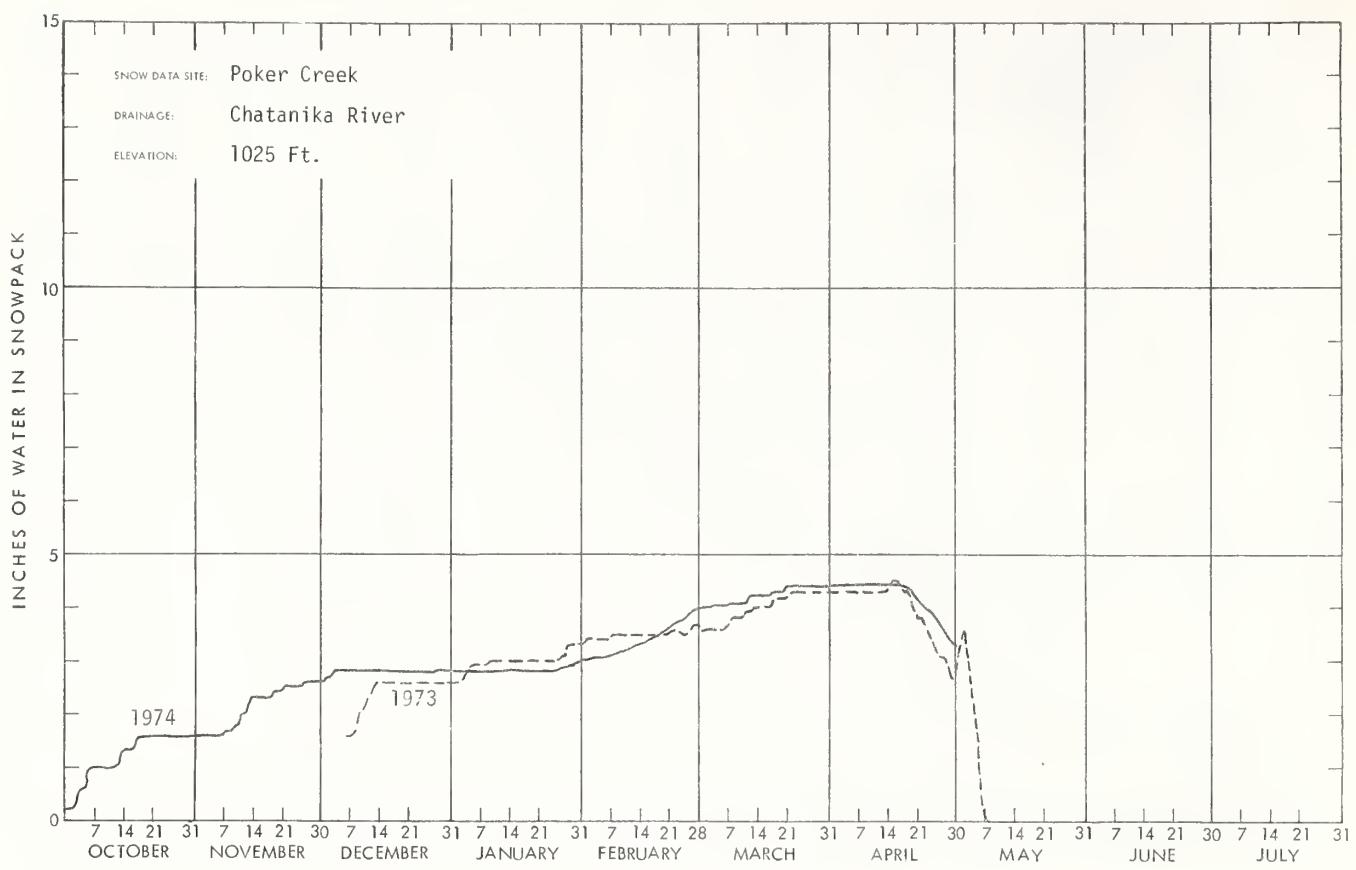
+ 1958-1972 period.

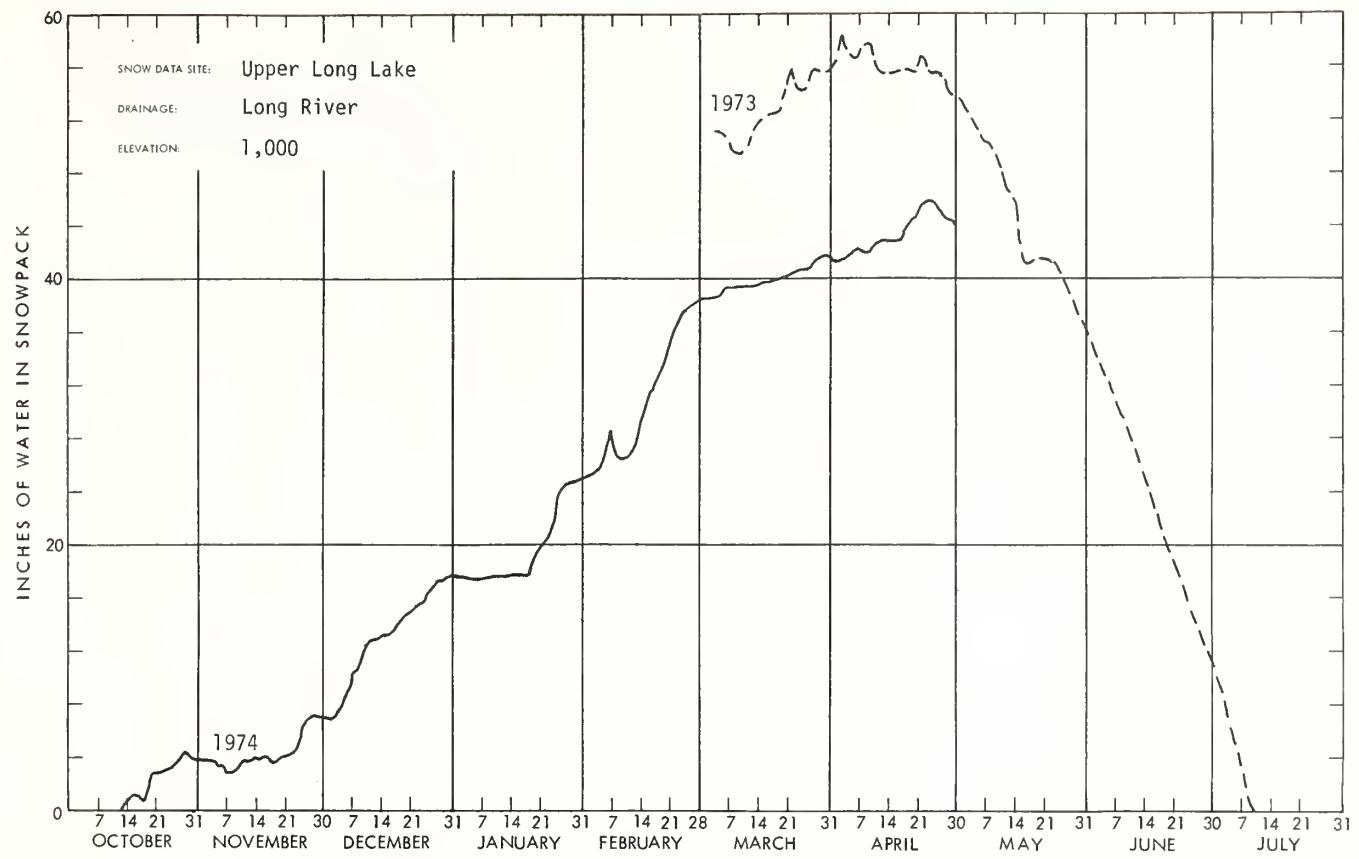
SNOW

DRAINAGE BASIN and/or SNOW COURSE			THIS YEAR			PAST RECORD		
NAME	Number	Elevation	Date of Survey	Snow Depth (Inches)	Water Content (Inches)	Water Content (inches)		Years of Previous Record
						Last Year	Average +	
			Water Year 1974:	10/12 10/16 10/19 3/06	10 18 35 85	3.5 5.9 10.6 33.5	0.4 -- -- --	6.9 -- -- 1
Wolverine Glacier C	88	4430	Water Year 1973:	6/02 7/05 8/24	244 188 116	94.1 106.7 68.5	-- 42.1 --	-- 84.3 31.5
			Water Year 1974:	10/16 10/21 3/05	42 59 134	13.4 18.9 49.6	-- -- --	15.0 -- --

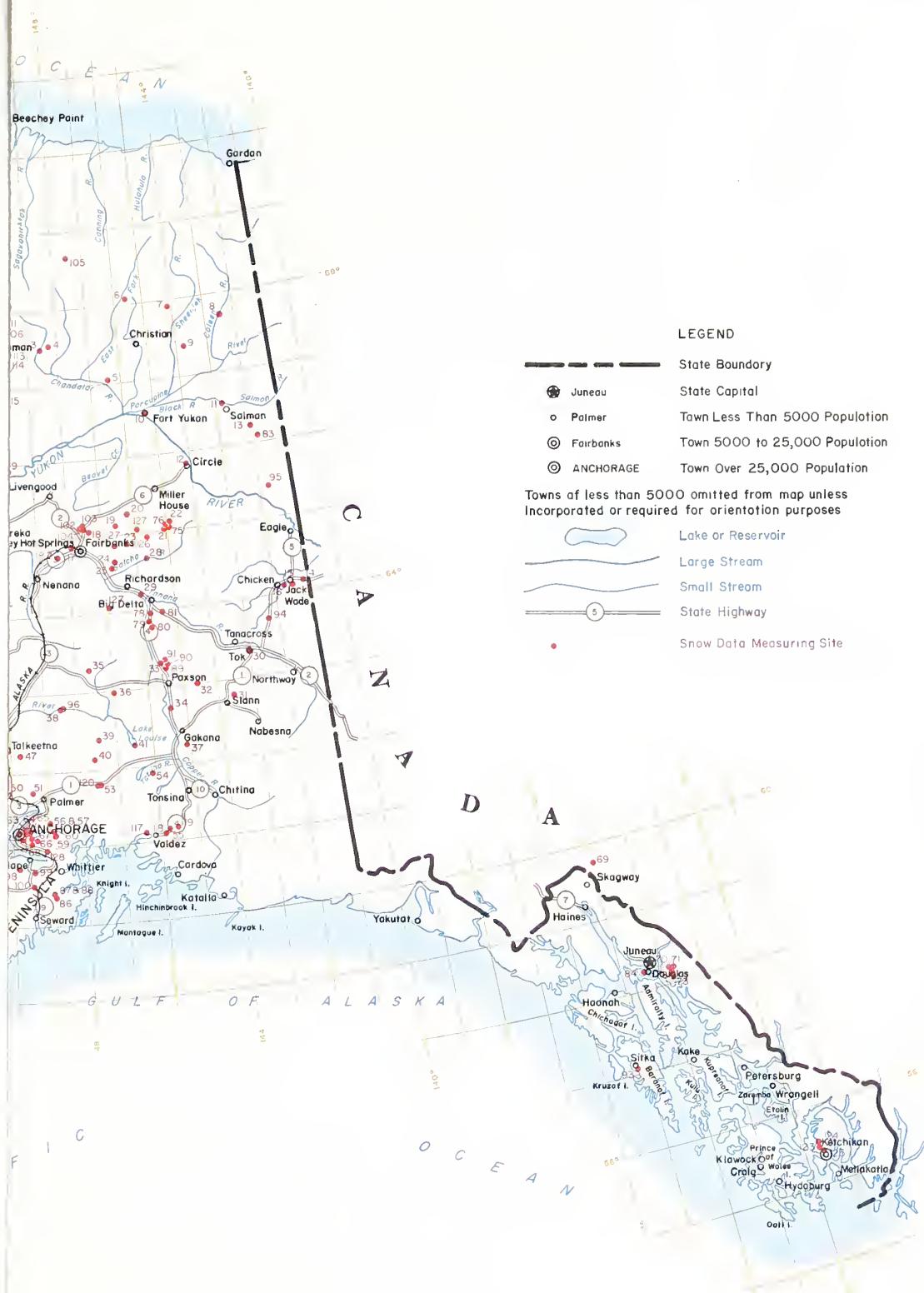
+ 1958-1972 period.











SNOW COURSES AND RELATED DATA MEASURING SITES

ALASKA

1974

20 0 20 40
SCALE 1:1,500,000
ALBERS EQUAL AREA PROJECTION

INDEX OF ALASKA SNOW COURSES

MAP NO.	COURSE NAME	COURSE NO. *	ELEV.	LAT.	LONG.	MEAS. DATES *	MEAS. BY	MAP NO.	COURSE NAME	COURSE NO. *	ELEV.	LAT.	LONG.	MEAS. DATES *	MEAS. BY
1	Anaktuvuk Pass	51TT1A	2100	68°09'N	151°41'W	3,4	a	79	Meadows Road	45002	1570	63°52'N	145°50'W	1,2,3,4,5,7	a
2	Bettles Field	51RR1A	640	66°35'N	151°32'W	3,4	a	80	Donnelly Dome	45003	2200	63°47'N	145°43'W	1,2,3,4,5,7	a
3	Chandalar Lake	48SS1A	2040	67°30'N	148°30'W	3,4	a	81	Granite Creek	45004	1240	63°57'N	145°24'W	1,2,3,4,5,7	a
4	Squaw Lake	48SS2a	2150	67°33'N	148°15'W	3,4	a	82	Bonanza Creek	48PP1	1150	64°45'N	148°20'W	2,3,4,5	b
5	Venetie	48SS1A	610	67°03'N	146°25'W	3,4,7	a	83	Dempsey Creek	41RR2A	950	66°06'N	141°48'W	3,4	a
6	Arctic Village	45TT1A	2300	68°05'N	145°35'W	3,4	a	84	Douglas Ski Bowl	34JJ1	1640	58°16'N	134°27'W	3,4,5	b
7	Koness Lake	44551A	1790	67°55'N	144°08'W	3,4	a	86	Wolverine Glacier (A)	48LL1	2130	60°23'N	148°54'W	1,2,4,5,6,7	9
8	Coleen River	42SS1A	1100	67°44'N	142°28'W	3,4,7	a	87	Wolverine Glacier (B)	48LL2	3610	60°25'N	148°55'W	2,3,4,5,6,7	9
9	Vundik Lake	43SS1a	950	67°23'N	143°45'W	3,4	a	88	Wolverine Glacier (C)	48LL3	4430	60°25'N	148°55'W	1,2,4,5,7	9
10	Fort Yukon	45RR1AM	430	66°35'N	145°15'W	3,4,7	a	89	Gulkana Glacier (A)	45006	4590	63°15'N	145°29'W	2,3,4,5,6,7	9
11	Black River	42RR1A	650	66°36'N	142°45'W	3,4,7	a	90	Gulkana Glacier (B)	45007	5480	63°17'N	145°26'W	2,3,4,5,6,7	9
12	Circle City	44QQ3A	600	65°50'N	144°05'W	3,4,7	a	91	Gulkana Glacier (C)	45008	6360	63°19'N	145°29'W	5,6,7	9
13	Bull Lake	41RR1A	810	66°12'N	141°59'W	3,4	a	93	Blue Lake	35II2	950	57°04'N	135°10'W	3,4,5	b
14	Eagle Village	41PP1A	900	64°08'N	141°08'W	3,4,7	a	94	Mt. Fairplay	42001a	3100	63°42'N	142°17'W	3,4,5	a
15	Boundary	41PP3A	3300	64°05'N	141°27'W	3,4	a	95	Nation River	41Q01a	3050	65°25'N	141°40'W	3,4	a
16	Chicken Airstrip	41PP2A	1650	64°05'N	141°45'W	3,4,7	a	96	Fog Lakes #2	48NN2A	2250	62°47'N	148°29'W	2,3,4,5	a,c
17	Yak Pasture	47PP1	540	64°52'N	147°55'W	2,3,4,5	a	98	Bertha Creek	49LL2	850	60°45'N	149°51'W	2,3,4,5	a
18	Cleary Summit	47Q01A	2230	65°03'N	147°24'W	1,2,3,4,5,7	a	99	Kenai Summit	49LL3	1390	60°40'N	149°28'W	2,3,4,5	a
19	Little Chena	46QQ2AP	2200	65°08'N	146°32'W	2,3,4,5,7	a	100	Moose Pass	49LL4	700	60°31'N	149°30'W	2,3,4,5	a
20	Mt. Ryan	46Q01AP	2950	65°16'N	146°07'W	2,3,4,5,7	a	101	Jean Lake	50LL1	620	60°31'N	150°11'W	2,3,4,5	a
21	Chena Hot Springs	45Q01	1250	65°03'N	145°03'W	2,3,4,5,7	a	102	Haystack Mtn.	47Q02	1950	65°08'N	147°38'W	2,3,4,5	d
22	Big Windy	44QQ2AP	3850	65°07'N	144°52'W	2,3,4,5,7	a	103	Caribou Creek	47Q03	1440	65°09'N	147°35'W	2,3,4,5	d
23	Munson Ridge	46PP1AP	3100	64°52'N	146°13'W	2,3,4,5,7	a	104	Poker Creek	47Q045	1025	65°08'N	147°32'W	2,3,4,5,7	d
24	French Creek	46PP2MA	2010	64°43'N	146°40'W	2,3,4,5,7	a	105	Elusive Lake	47TT1A	1800	68°39'N	147°30'W	3,4,5	f
25	Little Salcha	46PP3	1500	64°38'N	146°44'W	2,3,4,5,7	a	106	Oetrich Camp	49SS1A	1550	67°42'N	149°45'W	2,3,4,5	f
27	Colorado Creek	46PP4S	750	64°52'N	146°39'W	1,2,3,4,5,7	a	107	Cold Foot Camp	50551	1000	67°16'N	150°10'W	1,2,3,4	f
28	Caribou Mine	45PP2A	1115	64°40'N	145°40'W	2,3,4,5,7	a	108	Prospect Creek	50RRI	980	66°47'N	150°45'W	2,3,4,5	f
29	Big Delta	45PP1	980	64°14'N	145°58'W	2,3,4,5	a	109	Five Mile Camp	49RR1	400	65°55'N	149°48'W	2,3,4,5	f
30	Tok Junction	43001	1650	63°18'N	143°00'W	2,3,4,5	a	110	Table Mountain	49SS3a	2200	67°58'N	149°45'W	2,3,4,5	f
31	Mentasta Pass	43NN1	2430	62°51'N	143°30'W	2,3,4,5	a	111	Snowden Mtn.	49554a	1900	67°50'N	149°41'W	2,3,4,5	f
32	Mankomek Lake	44NN1	3050	63°00'N	144°32'W	2,3,4,5	a	112	Kupuk Creek	50SS2a	2300	67°48'N	150°08'W	2,3,4,5	f
33	Fielding Lake	45001A	3000	63°18'N	145°33'W	2,3,4,5	a	113	Glacier Creek	49SS2a	2000	67°28'N	149°31'W	2,3,4,5	f
34	Haggard Creek	45NN1A	2540	62°42'N	145°28'W	2,3,4,5	a	114	West Buttons	49555a	1600	67°17'N	149°34'W	2,3,4,5	f
35	Monahan Flat	47001A	2710	63°18'N	147°39'W	2,3,4,5	a,c	115	Jim River	49RR1a	1900	66°51'N	149°50'W	2,3,4,5	f
36	Clearwater Lake	46NN1A	3100	62°59'N	146°58'W	2,3,4,5	a,c	116	Thirty Mile	50RR2a	1300	66°13'N	150°15'W	2,3,4,5	f
37	Sanford River	45NN2A	2280	62°13'N	145°04'W	2,3,4,5	a,c	117	Valdez	46MM2	50	61°08'N	146°20'W	2,3,4,5	a
38	Fog Lakes	48NN1A	2270	62°47'N	148°30'W	2,3,4,5	a,c	118	Lowe River	45MM3	550	61°06'N	145°50'W	3,4,5	a
39	Oshetna Lake	47NN1A	2950	62°23'N	147°29'W	2,3,4,5	a,c	119	Tsaina River	45MM4	1500	61°12'N	145°30'W	3,4,5	a
40	Little Nelchina	47NN2a	4160	62°07'N	147°36'W	2,3,4,5	a,c	120	Sheep Mtn. #2	47MM2	2900	61°47'N	147°30'W	3,4,5	a
41	Lake Louise	46NN2A	2400	62°17'N	146°30'W	2,3,4,5	a,c	121	Ridge Creek (UP)	51KK1	1300	59°42'N	151°28'W	3,4,5	a
42	Lake Minchumina	52001A	730	63°53'N	152°18'W	3,4	a	122	Ridge Creek (LO)	51KK2	1100	59°40'N	151°32'W	3,4,5	a
43	Farewell Lake	53NN1A	1090	62°34'N	153°35'W	3,4	a	123	Harriet Top	31GG1	2000	55°29'N	131°37'W	3,4,5	b
44	Chelatna Lake	51NN1a	1650	62°31'N	151°29'W	2,3,4,5	a,c	124	Hunt Saddle	31GG2	1500	55°30'N	131°37'W	3,4,5	b
45	Peters Hills	50NN1A	2010	62°31'N	150°57'W	2,3,4,5	a,c	125	Lake Shore	31GG3	660	55°29'N	131°36'W	3,4,5	b
46	Talkeetna	50NN2	350	62°18'N	150°05'W	2,3,4,5	a,c	126	Teuchet Creek	45PP3	1640	64°57'N	145°31'W	2,3,4,5	a
47	Bald Mt. Lake	49NN1A	2150	62°15'N	149°45'W	2,3,4,5	a,c	127	Monument Creek	45QQ2	1900	65°03'N	145°55'W	2,3,4,5	a
48	Skwentna	51MM1A	160	61°58'N	151°12'W	2,3,4,5	a,c	128	Mt. Alyeska	49LL15	1200	60°57'N	149°05'W	2,3,4,5	b,a
49	Alexander Lake	50MM1A	200	61°45'N	150°54'W	2,3,4,5	a,c	129	South Campbell Creek	49MM11	1200	61°08'N	149°42'W	2,3,4,5	a
50	Willow Airstrip	50MM2	150	61°45'N	150°03'W	2,3,4,5	a,c								
51	Independence Mine	49MM10	3300	61°45'N	149°25'W	3,4,5	a								
52	McArthur	52LL1A	120	61°00'N	152°00'W	2,3,4,5	a,c								
53	Sheep Mountain	47MM1	2700	61°47'N	147°29'W	3,4,5	a								
54	St. Anne's Lake	46MM1A	1990	61°53'N	146°03'W	2,3,4,5	a,c								
55	Worthington Glacier	45MM2	2400	61°10'N	145°45'W	3,4,5	a								
56	Moraine	48MM1	2100	61°22'N	148°59'W	3,4,5,7	e								
57	Ptarmigan	48MM2	3000	61°22'N	148°51'W	3,4,5,7	e								
59	Goat	48MM7A	3200	61°14'N	148°51'W	3,4,5,7	e								
60	Grizzly	48MM4A	5000	61°15'N	148°56'W	3,4,7	e								
61	Arctic Valley #1	49MM1	500	61°13'N	149°40'W	2,3,4,5	c								
62	Arctic Valley #2	49MM2	1000	61°13'N	149°37'W	2,3,4,5	c								
63	Arctic Valley #3	49MM3	2030	61°14'N	149°35'W	2,3,4,5	c								
64	Arctic Valley #4	49MM4	2330	61°14'N	149°33'W	2,3,4,5	c								
65	Arctic Ski Bowl	49MM5	3000	61°15'N	149°31'W	2,3,4,5	c								
66	Bird Creek	49MM6A	2350	61°06'N	149°20'W	2,3,4,5,7	a								
67	Ship Creek	49MMMP5	1750	61°08'N	149°28'W	2,3,4,5	a								
68	Indian Pass	49MM8A	2350	61°05'N	149°29'W	2,3,4,5	a								
69	Log Cabin (B.C.)	34KK1	2880	59°45'N	134°58'W	3,4,5	e								

MAP NO.	COURSE NAME	COL
1	Anaktuvuk Pass	51T
2	Bettles Field	51RI
3	Chandalar Lake	48S
4	Squaw Lake	48S
5	Venetie	46S
6	Arctic Village	45T
7	Koness Lake	44S
8	Coleen River	42S
9	Vundik Lake	43S
10	Fort Yukon	45RI
11	Black River	42RI
12	Circle City	44Q
13	Bull Lake	41RI
14	Eagle Village	41PI
15	Boundary	41PI
16	Chicken Airstrip	41PI
17	Yak Pasture	47PI
18	Cleary Summit	47Q
19	Little Chena	46Q
20	Mt. Ryan	46Q
21	Chena Hot Springs	45Q
22	Big Windy	44Q
23	Munson Ridge	46PI
24	French Creek	46PI
25	Little Salcha	46PI
27	Colorado Creek	46PI
28	Caribou Mine	45PI
29	Big Delta	45PI
30	Tok Junction	43Q
31	Mentasta Pass	43N
32	Mankomen Lake	44N
33	Fielding Lake	45Q
34	Haggard Creek	45N
35	Monahan Flat	47Q
36	Clearwater Lake	46N
37	Sanford River	45N
38	Fog Lakes	48N
39	Oshetna Lake	47N
40	Little Nelchina	47N
41	Lake Louise	46N
42	Lake Minchumina	52Q
43	Farewell Lake	53N
44	Chelatna Lake	51N
45	Peters Hills	50N
46	Talkeetna	50N
47	Bald Mt. Lake	49N
48	Skwentna	51M
49	Alexander Lake	50M
50	Willow Airstrip	50M
51	Independence Mine	49M
52	McArthur	52L
53	Sheep Mountain	47M
54	St. Anne's Lake	46M
55	Worthington Glacier	45M
56	Moraine	48M
57	Ptarmigan	48M
59	Goat	48M
60	Grizzly	48M
61	Arctic Valley #1	49M
62	Arctic Valley #2	49M
63	Arctic Valley #3	49M
64	Arctic Valley #4	49M
65	Arctic Ski Bowl	49M
66	Bird Creek	49M
67	Ship Creek	49M
68	Indian Pass	49M
69	Log Cabin (B.C.)	34K
70	Upper Long Lake	33J
71	Long Lake	33J
72	Speel River	33J
73	Crater Lake	33J
74	Wien Lake	51P
75	Upper Chena	44Q
76	Wolf Creek	44Q
77	Lake Todatonten	52R
78	Ft. Greely	45Q

AGENCIES AND ORGANIZATIONS COOPERATING IN ALASKA SNOW SURVEYS

FEDERAL

Atomic Energy Commission

Department of Agriculture
Forest Service

Institute of Northern Forestry
North Tongass National Forest
South Tongass National Forest
Chugach National Forest

Department of Commerce

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NOAA National Weather Service

Department of Defense

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
U.S. Army Cold Regions Research and Engineering Laborat

Department of Interior

Bureau of Land Management
Geological Survey
Alaska Power Administration

STATE

State of Alaska

Alaska Soil Conservation District

Fairbanks Soil Conservation Sub-district
Homer Soil Conservation Sub-district
Kenai-Kasilof Soil Conservation Sub-district
Kenny Lake Soil Conservation Sub-district
Kodiak Soil Conservation Sub-district
Montana Soil Conservation Sub-district
Ninilchik Soil Conservation Sub-district
Palmer Soil Conservation Sub-district
Salcha-Big Delta Soil Conservation Sub-district
Wasilla Soil Conservation Sub-district

University of Alaska

BOROUGH

Greater Anchorage Area Borough
City and Borough of Sitka

MUNICIPALITIES

City of Anchorage

PRIVATE

Mt. Alyeska Resort, Inc.

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